

What is claimed is:

1. A dry mixture for forming a fireproofing composition adapted to be spray applied to a steel substrate, said dry mixture comprising a hydraulic binder, a substrate adherence and coherence enhancing agent, and a set retarder, said dry mixture providing, upon the addition of water, a pumpable slurry capable of spray application to a steel substrate and which, after spray application is adherent to said substrate.
2. The dry mixture of claim 1, wherein said substrate adherence and coherence enhancing agent is polyvinyl alcohol.